

Message Text

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11

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01 ISO-00

CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DOTE-00

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01

SCI-06 TRSE-00 OIC-04 DRC-01 FEA-02 CEQ-02 COA-02

COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 /271 W

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R 150701Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3835

INFO USUN NEW YORK 074

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 1173

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR

SUBJ: YAR PARTICIPATION IN CARACAS LOS CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY. DELEGATION NOW NAMED. LEGAL ADVISER HUBAISHI WILL HEAD AND

SHOULD BE EXCELLENT CONTACT. YARG WILL FOLLOW ARAB LEAGUE ON
MOST ISSUES. ITS MAJOR CONCERN IS STRAINTS ISSUE ON WHICH IT
FAVORS UNIMPEDED TRANSIT, BUT IS UNDER PRESSURE FROM ARAB
INNOCENT PASSAGE ADVOCATES. YARG WILL ALSO WORK BILATERALLY WITH
ETHIOPIA ON RED SEA ISSUES DURING CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

2. YAR DELEGATION TO CARACAS LOS CONFERENCE FINALLY NAMED JUNE 9.

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UNEXPECTEDLY, YAR HAS SELECTED ITS TOP LAWYER,

PRESIDENTIAL LEGAL ADVISER HUSAIN AL-HUBAISHI, TO HEAD DELEGATION. HE WILL BE ASSISTED BY YAR PERMREP TO UN GENEVA ADNAN TARSISI AND DEPUTY PERMREP IN NEW YORK AHMAD HADDAD.

3. OVER PAST TWO MONTHS EMBASSY HAS KEPT IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH HUBAISHI WHO IS KEY OFFICIAL ON LOS MATTER. HE HAS READ CAREFULL ALL MATERIAL WE HAVE PROVIDED HIM UPON RECEIPT FROM DEPARTMENT. HE HAS COMMENTED TO US THAT HE FINDS OUR POSITIONS ON VARIOUS LOS MATTERS REASONABLE AND POSITIVE.

4. HUBAISHI TOLD DCM ON JUNE 9 THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT IRYANI SAME MORNING. IT WAS DECIDED THAT ONLY

MULTILATERAL ISSUE OF REAL CONCERN TO YARG IS SUBJECT OF STRAITS. ON OTHER MATTERS YARG WILL, AS RULE, FOLLOW ARAB LEAGUE CONSENSUS.

5. YARG'S STRONG INCLINATION, AS POTENTIALLY ZONE-LOCKED STATE ADJOINING BAB AL-MANDAB, IS TO SUPPORT OUR POSITION ON UNIMPEDED TRANSIT VS MORE RESTRICTIVE DOCTRINE OF INNOCENT PASSAGE. YARG AWARE OF POTENTIAL PROBLEMS POSED BY BAB AL-MANDAB, WHERE INTERNATIONAL STRAITS ALREADY PASS THROUGH PDRY TERRITORIAL WATERS BETWEEN PERIM ISLAND AND MAINLAND. MATTER IS COMPLICATED, HOWEVER, BY ARAB POSITION ON STRAITS OF HORMUZ. MODERATE ARABIAN PENINSULA STATES (SAUDI ARABIA AND OMAN) ARE ADVOCATING INNOCENT PASSAGE. ONLY ARAB REGIME IN GULF ARGUING FOR UNIMPEDED TRANSIT IS RADICAL IRAQI GOVERNMENT. HUBAISHI EXPECTS THAT YARG DELEGATION WILL COME UNDER STRONG PRESSURE TO SUPPORT SAUDIS WITH RADICALS LINING UP BEHIND IRAQ. HIS INSTRUCTIONS ARE THEREFORE FLEXIBLE. HE WILL TRY TO SUPPORT UNIMPEDED TRANSIT UNLESS PRESSURE IS TOO STRONG.

6. SECOND MAJOR ISSUE OF CONCERN TO YARG, ACCORDING HUBAISHI, IS BILATERAL ISSUE OF RED SEA ISLANDS AND MEDIAN LINE BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND YAR. YARG VERY MUCH WANTS TO SETTLE THIS ISSUE BEFORE OVERLAPPING OIL CONCESSIONS COMPLICATE IT. YARG ALSO FEARS "ARABIZATION" OF ISLANDS ISSUE BY PDRY, IF GIVEN

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ANTOHER PRETEXT SUCH AS FALSE 1973 STORY IN "IIME" ABOUT ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ONE OF ISLANDS. HUBAISHI HAS THEREFORE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MEET WITH ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION PRIVATELY TO TRY TO TRY TO ACHIEVE SOME PROGRESS ON RED SEA ISSUES.

7. EMBASSY HAS A CLOSE CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP WITH HUBAISHI. BELIEVE USDEL SHOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH HIM TO ENCOURAGE HIS SUPPORT AND TO USE HIM AS SOURCE FOR LEARNING

OTHER ARAB VIEWS. HUBAISHI IS AN ENERGETIC, BRIGHT,
BRITISH-TRAINED LAWYER WITH A GOOD GRASP OF LOS ISSUES.
AHMAD HADDAD, A UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT NEAR-GRADUATE AND
FORMER DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, SHOULD ALSO BE A USEFUL CONTACT
ALTHOUGH NOT A VERY INTELLECTUAL OR STRONG PERSONALITY.
TARSISI IS EXPERIENCED CONFERENCE DIPLOMAT WELL-DISPOSED
TO WEST. ALL THREE SPEAK FLUENT ENGLISH.
CRAWFORD

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NNN

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